

Message Text

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51

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00

EB-11 FCC-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 OC-06 RSC-01 COME-00

OIC-04 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

DRC-01 /146 W

----- 029678

R 251250Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4240

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USUN NEWYORK 110

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1218

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG POL PU ITU

SUBJECT: PRESENT STATUS OF VOTE ON GUINEA-BISSAU MEMBERSHIP IN
ITU; EEC POSITION

REF: STATE 22192

1. AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL, MISSION HAS CONTACTED EEC MISSIONS
GENEVA RE MAIL BALLOT (WITH MARCH 2 DEADLINE) ON APPLICATION
OF GUINEA-BISSAU FOR ITU MEMBERSHIP. MISSION TELATT ALSO
CONSULTED STEAD, DIRECTOR, ITU DEPT OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, RE
PRESENT STATUS OF VOTING ON ISSUE AND ON METHODS OF ABSTAINING
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BY MAIL BALLOT.

2. STEAD REPORTED THAT AS OF FEBRUARY 21 ITU HAD RECEIVED 52 "YES" VOTES AND ONE (URUGUAY) "NO" VOTE WITH THREE MEMBERS--IRELAND, NEW ZEALAND AND KHMER REPUBLIC--REPORTING BY TEL THAT THEY ABSTAINED. STEAD EXPLAINED THAT ACCORDING TO MONTREUX CONVENTION MEMBER STATES NOT REPLYING WITHIN FOUR MONTHS TO MAIL BALLOT "SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE ABSTAINED." (ART I, PARA 5 OF CONVENTION). HE ALSO SAID THAT MEMBER STATES CAN ABSTAIN BY CLEARLY REPLYING "WE ABSTAIN." MAJORITY OF STATES, WISHING TO ABSTAIN, HOWEVER, SIMPLY DO NOT REPLY TO SYG'S LETTER. STEAD CONFIRMED THAT GUINEA-BISSAU MUST GAIN 97 VOTES (TWO-THIRDS OF 146 MEMBERS) IN ORDER TO BE ADMITTED TO ITU MEMBERSHIP.

3. GENEVA EEC GROUP WILL MEET NEXT WEEK TO CONSIDER ITS POSITION ON ITU MAIL BALLOT. GROUP THUS FAR HAS BEEN UNABLE TO REACH CONSENSUS, ALTHOUGH NONE RPT NONE WILL VOTE FOR GUINEA-BISSAU MEMBERSHIP. SOME STATES WILL NOT RETURN BALLOT; SOME WILL REPLY STATING THEY ABSTAIN; SOME MAY VOTE NO. FOLLOWING IS SAMPLING OF EEC MISSION VIEWS AS OF THIS WRITING:

FRG: INSTRUCTED TO VOTE NO, BUT WILL NOT RETURN BALLOT OR WILL FORMALLY ABSTAIN IF EEC GROUP COMES TO CONSENSUS ON EITHER POSITION.

FRANCE: WILL NOT RETURN BALLOT.

UK: OPPOSED, BUT HAS NOT YET DECIDED ON FINAL POSITION.

ITALY: OPPOSED; MAY NOT RETURN BALLOT.

DENMARK: WILL ABSTAIN; MAY DO SO BY NOT RETURNING BALLOT.

NETHERLANDS: WILL PROBABLY ABSTAIN.

IRELAND: AS NOTED ABOVE (PARA 2) HAS ABSTAINED

BELGIUM: MISSION AWAITS INSTRUCTIONS.

LUXEMBOURG: MISSION AWAITS INSTRUCTIONS. DALE

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Message Attributes

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Executive Order: GS
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30 JUN 2005

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